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FAX: 905-853-9391

EMAIL:
st.elizabethseton@rogers.com

Website:
stelizabethsetonne.archtoronto.org

Mass Times:

Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 4:30pm
Sunday: 9:00am & 11:00am
All will be lived streamed.

Weekday Mass Schedule:

Monday to Thursday: 10:00am
All Masses are live-streamed

*Polish Mass: 5:00pm on the last Sunday
of each month except July & August

St. Vincent de Paul Society:

905-898-4264
Website: sjcses.blogspot.com

Catholic Community Services

of York Region: 905-770-7040
Catholic Cemeteries: 905-889-7467
St. John's Cemetery
905-898-4137 ext. 207

New Parishioner?

Welcome to St. Elizabeth Seton!
If you would like to register, forms are available
at the church entrance or the parish office.

Parishioners with a change of
address, please inform the Parish office.

Envelopes may also be
acquired at the office.

Please introduce yourself to
Fr. Roy Roberts after Mass



Parish Schools

Good Shepherd School
905-895-0303
St. Elizabeth Seton School
905-853-0340
Our Lady of Good Counsel
905-478-4242
Sacred Heart High School
905-895-3340

St. Elizabeth Seton Parish

Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 10, 2024



Pastoral Team

Fr. Roy Roberts, Pastor
Deacon Marian Pawlitzko
Deacon Stephen Pitre

Parish Staff

Parish Administrator ~ Ann Lynch
Sacramental Coordinator
Baptisms, First Communions & Confirmations ~ Jennifer McAvoy
Rectory Administrator—Nancy Rojas

Regular Office Hours

Monday to Thursday 9am to 4pm
Friday 9am to 1pm



Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday ~ 3:00 - 3:30 pm
Or By Appointment

Sacrament of Baptism or Marriage: Please contact the office.

For those interested in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults &
Children of Catechetical age please contact Fr. Roy Roberts

**"Cheerfulness prepares a glorious mind
for all the noblest acts."**

St. Elizabeth Seton

Mass Intentions

Monday March 11th

10am: **Ugo D'Andrea**

Req. by: CUPE 1571

Tuesday March 12th

10am: **Osvaldo Mora**

Req. by: CUPE 1571

Wednesday March 13th

10am: **Rosalia Jaszczyszyn**

Req. by: CUPE 1571

Thursday March 14th

10am: **Lisa Stokl**

Req. by: Steve Stokl



Your Cancelled Stamps are Valuable

Your cancelled stamps can make a difference. Christmas cards may soon be arriving! Please donate your stamps in the box located in the foyer of the church or by dropping them by the parish office. The money raised from the sale of the postage stamps goes to the Canadian Food for Children Mission Fund.

Ukrainian Relief Fund:

In addition to praying for the situation, parishioners can contribute to the Ukrainian Relief Fund, which the Archdiocese has established to help suffering Ukrainians.

Parishioner are able to contribute online by going to: www.archtoronto.org/en/contact-us/donations/donate-pages/donate-to-humanitarian-relief/



St. Vincent de Paul

You can donate online to the Newmarket conference at:

<https://sjcses.blogspot.com/p/donate.html>

Parish Giving

March 3, 2024

Offertory	\$8,993.05
SES Building	\$1,285.00

Month of March PAG

(Pre-authorized Giving)

Sunday Offertory	\$3,959.72
SES Building Fund	\$ 400.00
ShareLife	\$ 272.00

Ruminations

With names like Donnelly, Doyle, Scully, McNertney, Leary, O'Connor, Lyons, Flynn, and McRae in my genealogy, one might assume that St. Patrick's Day might be a big deal, despite the fact that some of those names represent not only green Irish, but a healthy amount of orange Irish. Growing up, we acknowledged the day. Mom had fond memories of the feast in elementary school. Apparently the priest at St. Helen's school in Toronto would bring in ice cream bars for all the children in honour of St. Patrick. St. Helen's was a very Irish parish at the time. It was quite the novelty because ice cream was one of those items likely on people's list to give up, so with the okay of the priest, certainly Lenten disciplines could be suspended at least for a day, especially for such an auspicious occasion celebrating St. Patrick. Oh the good old days. Just a note to our young people, there are no plans to bring in ice cream bars for St. Patrick's Day. If I can't have ice cream, well then.... In our elementary school, St. Patrick's had no more prestige than Valentine's Day, and let's face it, Valentines was much more popular. It came with chocolate, and or fancy decorated cupcakes from some ambitious and kind mother (there was no such thing or concern about allergies back then) and of course everyone gave a card to everyone else. The cards were purchased in a package from Woolworth's. There was such a variety and so a great amount of time was spent in arranging the best cards going to the best friends, and the less impressive cards to the less desirable classmates. Other than making shamrock decorations that would be taped to the fridge for a couple of days, it was a somewhat uneventful day. The big appeal for the day is more about green beer, raucous pubs, and singing old drinking songs. That had little appeal to young people and to be honest, it is still not high on my agenda. That being said, there was always a visit to see granddad, Arthur Charles Donnelly, for whom it was a moral obligation to celebrate the feast. Granddad was old, even when he was young. He was usually perched on his chair in the living room and watching Johnny Bench and the Cincinnati Reds play baseball, and it goes without saying, Notre Dame College football. I remember when my degree arrived via mail from Notre Dame my mom was excited not because of the degree, but because her father would have been over the moon with excitement thinking that one of his grandchildren actually went to that hallowed institution. What was mom's favorite memory of St. Patrick's Day though had a more religious component. The parish priest had visited him on St. Patrick's Day bringing communion and anointing him, which was kind of a regular happening, but it was made extra-special being St. Patrick's day. A few days later, my grandfather's first great grandchild was being baptized and it was one of those family reunion events. My grandfather was over-joyed, but he made a cryptic comment that no one took seriously. He dropped a note that he thought this would be the last family gathering. He died that night. That was back in 1976, almost 50 years ago. From then on, St. Patrick's Day became less about our Irish roots than about granddad being amply prepared for his death. Ah, the wearing of the green. Happy St. Patrick's Day.

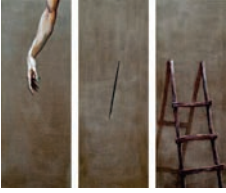


Fr. Roy

Announcements and Events...

Stations of the cross

We will celebrate Stations of the Cross every Friday starting at 7:00 pm during the season of Lent. The Stations are a time-honoured tradition rooted in walking with Christ to the Cross.



Lent Evening Prayer

Sunday evenings starting at 7:00 pm, we will celebrate Evening Prayer or Vespers in the style of Taizé. This is a very reflective and meditative preparation for Easter. Please join us.



The Week of Reconciliation March 11 – 16

We will offer times as follows:
(provided there is no funerals)

Monday, March 11 - 10:30 am - 11:30 am

Tuesday, March 12 - 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Wednesday, March 13 - 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Thursday, March 14 - 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Saturday, March 16 - 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm



The Next Fish Fry

Our next Fish Fry will take place on Friday, March 22, starting at 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm. Declared the best French fries in the area. Mark your calendar to join us in our Preparations for Easter.



***NOTICE**

Could the owner of **envelope box number 265** please contact the parish office. We are in need of some information. Thank you.

Sacramental Corner

Confirmation

Confirmation Cross Ceremony

At all masses the weekend of March 16th/17th.

Please attend.



Holy Week Schedule

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)

Saturday March 23, 2024 - 4:30 p.m.

Sunday March 24, 2024 - 9:00 am, 11:00 am

Sacred Triduum

Holy Thursday, March 28th

Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7:30 pm

Good Friday, March 29th

Veneration of the Cross 11:00 am, 3:00 pm.

Holy Saturday, March 30th - 10:00 am

Office of the Readings & the Blessing of Easter Baskets (English)

11:00am - Blessing of Easter Baskets (Polish)

Great Easter Vigil - Saturday March 30th at 8:00 pm
please note that this celebration will be about 2 1/2 hours long.

Easter Sunday, March 31st, 9:00 am & 11:00 am

ShareLife

Support ShareLife's mission

Today, as we contemplate God's boundless generosity, may we, too, be moved by this same spirit of generosity. May this inspire all of us to be kind, compassionate, and move us to share our blessings with our brothers and sisters in need.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope or at sharelife.org/donate.

Let us pray for the sick...

Alana Brown-Wallace
Betty Loft
Bruce Firth
Kathleen Todesco
Joshua Perek
Donna Stea-Cutting
Andy Dube
Elizabeth Ryan
Matteo Savella
Jackson Rowan
Carmen Baldacchino
Mervin Correa
Leo Cadia Vaz
Orsola Accardi
Aria Crang
Andy Waldherr

E. Turnbull
Paul Jennas
Rose Marie Scott
Wanda Tolazzi
Sean Coen
Chad Buckley
Ana Aparicio
Jake Tallon
Victor Dumas
Trice Hawkins
Carole Carter
Lawrence Cooper
Candice Cusinan
Cheryl Tuck
Stephen Murphy
Sarah Kraft
Marian Kulmatytskyi
Joan Reagan

Laura Rostron
Albina Barber
Santiago Garcia
Hallie Lynn
Morgan Leung
Antonia Fabrizi
Theresa Wharton
Zeny Jose
Tammy Elkie
Marcus D'Mello
Lisa Stokl
Jeanette Barbosa
Daniel Juresic
Bernal Gutierrez
Tessa Stone

Lent, R.C.I.A. & the Scrutinies

As we have discussed before, the journey through Lent parallels the journey of the People of God to the renewal of the baptismal waters of Easter. Part of the preparations for the 'Elect' during this path through Lent is pausing on the third, fourth, and fifth Sundays for an intense inner reflection, or to coin a phrase, to 'Scrutinize oneself'. To that end, at whatever Mass the rite of scrutiny happens, the readings of the day are always taken from the cycle A readings. (The Sunday readings are on a three year cycle.)

On the Third Sunday of Lent, the Gospel of the day and used for the Scrutiny, is the Samaritan woman at the well. As Jesus asked her what she really longed for, so we too, along with the Elect, we are asked to reflect on the same question—what do we truly long for out of life, for our relationship with God, and our relationship with ourselves.

On the fourth Sunday of Lent, the Gospel for year A is the man born blind. It is again an invitation to look deeply within, to search what motivations, attitudes, and vulnerabilities that obscure our vision of the truth or 'blind us' from which we need to be healed. This is a journey in pursuit of Truth, truth about ourselves and truth about God.



On the fifth Sunday of Lent, we encounter the story of the raising of Lazarus. As Jesus weeps and Lazarus comes out of the tomb, Jesus orders those around him to 'unbind him' - unbind him from the wrappings and entrapments of death. Relieve him from anything and everything that smells of death. We all co-exist with things that hold us back or prevent us from entering more fully into the gift of life.

Lent is a season given for the Elect who are preparing for the sacraments of initiation in a few weeks at the Easter Vigil. In support of them, in union with them, we participate in the same spiritual exercises, as spiritual guides and companions on that journey. It is the point of this season. The more we put into prayer and the other disciplines, the more we allow God to transform us.

This makes the renewal of our baptism promises, a key component of our Easter day celebration, a renewed commitment to living our faith, and expressing God's presence in our world.



Week of Reconciliation

Every year the Church offers two periods of preparation for major celebrations, Christmas and Easter. Part of the preparation includes a focus on spiritual matters, and a healthy introspection that certainly would be enhanced by experiencing the sacrament of Reconciliation, affectionately sometimes called Confession.

I think a lot of us have this fear of this Sacrament. There are a couple of main reasons that have diminished this practice. Most of us have never developed an appreciation for the freedom that is offered. In our early formative years, usually grade two, we were taught to name the bad things we had done, but our sacramental development ended there. So the practice itself remains immature and therefore ineffectual for maturing people. We find ourselves tired of restating the same old, same old.

We also have a fear of admitting we are sinners. We feel that the admission of this shadow sides makes us lesser mortals, or defective. This reveals more about our working image of God than any sense of reality about ourselves.

And of course, fear is a huge player. The problem is that we don't truly understand the life-giving nature of the Sacrament. When it is done well, we begin to see the patterns or inner motivations that dictate why we do what we do. This acknowledgment of the root of our actions gives us power, power to live deliberately, and living deliberately gives us freedom to live more authentically. We are set free, no longer trapped in a rhythm of life that holds us back.

So in the remaining days of reparation, take some time to reflect on the things over the last week or so (the reality is we live by the same patterns and what afflicts us this week is likely intimately related to what has afflicted us over the last 20 years), and ask yourself 'why'. Why did I do this or that. What is the reason or the motivation or the cause of my action. The action is merely a symptom, not the sin. It is only when we understand why we do what we do that we can gain control over our lives and move into true freedom, which is the goal, after all.

It should be renamed the Sacrament of Freedom, but no one asked my opinion—alas. This up-coming week there is ample opportunity here and around all the other parishes as well. Muster up the courage. You will be happy you did, and you will be set from even though you didn't know you needed it.



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